

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS AND COVID-19: KEY ISSUES AND RESOURCES

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF | MARCH 2020

NACo's MISSION

Strengthen America's counties.



NACo's VISION

Healthy, safe and vibrant counties across America.

ABOUT NACo

The National Association of Counties (NACo) strengthens America's counties, serving nearly 40,000 county elected officials and 3.6 million county employees. Founded in 1935, NACo unites county officials to:

- **Advocate county priorities** in federal policymaking
- **Promote exemplary county policies** and practices
- **Nurture leadership skills** and expand knowledge networks
- **Optimize county and taxpayer resources** and cost savings, and
- **Enrich the public's understanding** of county government.

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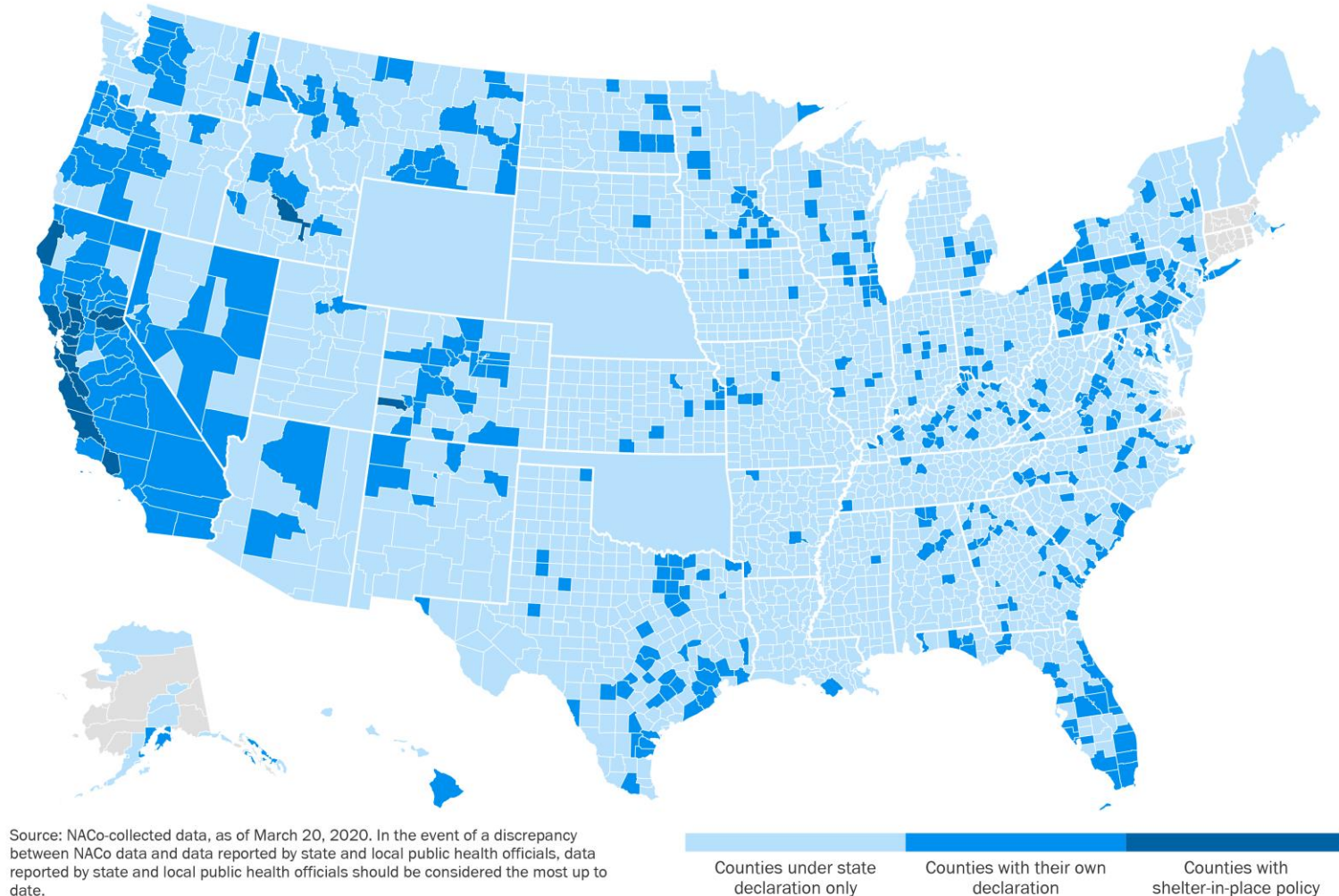
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COUNTY AND STATE EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Currently, there are 2,485 counties across the nation that are within a state that has declared a state of emergency. Across the country, there are 558 counties with their own declaration.



A photograph of two medical professionals, a man and a woman, in a clinical setting. They are both wearing blue scrubs and light blue surgical masks. The man, on the left, has curly hair and glasses. The woman, on the right, has blonde hair. They are both looking down at a document held by the man. The document has the word 'CORONAVIRUS' printed on it. In the background, other medical professionals in white coats and masks are visible, working at a counter. The overall scene is brightly lit with a blue tint.

COUNTY FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS COVID-19

CHAPTER 1

ON THE FRONTLINES OF THIS PANDEMIC, AMERICA'S
40,000 COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS



NEARLY
**1,000 COUNTY
SUPPORTED
HOSPITALS**



AND
**1,900 LOCAL
PUBLIC HEALTH
AUTHORITIES**



ARE ADDRESSING THE ISSUES OF
**COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS,
MITIGATION AND RESPONSE.**

FEDERAL COUNTY PRIORITIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- **Strengthen the Local Health Care Safety Net:** As the local health care system works to provide care for infected residents regardless of socioeconomic status, Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payments are a critical means for local hospitals to serve our nation's most vulnerable citizens. ***We urge Congress and the administration to repeal or delay the statutory Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) payment reductions scheduled to take effect on May 23, 2020.***
- **Access and Distribution of Personal Protective Equipment for Essential County Service Providers and First Responders:** As COVID-19 continues to spread throughout our country, adequate equipment is needed to prevent personal contamination, local health care professionals cannot administer tests and treat infected individuals. Counties request additional personal protective equipment for both county and private facilities be made available to preserve the health and safety of these essential employees when their services are needed most.
- **Preserve the Municipal Bond Market:** States and localities are on the front lines in the fight against COVID-19 and need assistance from the federal government to finance the increasing costs of the response to this health emergency. By authorizing the Federal Reserve to buy municipal debt, the Municipal Bonds Emergency Relief Act will help ensure greater stability of the municipal bond market, an indispensable financing tool for public health and other critical infrastructure. ***We urge Congress to adopt this important legislation, which will help provide support to state and local governments for this crisis and similar future emergencies.***

FEDERAL COUNTY PRIORITIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- **Deployment of Testing Equipment:** As COVID-19 continues to impact residents across the country, local governments cannot adequately respond to the threat of the virus without the essential tools required to measure the spread of the disease in our communities. ***We urge Congress and the administration to increase funding for and the availability of testing materials and supports, and grant flexibility to state and local governments so that we can quickly identify and treat individuals impacted by COVID-19.***
- **Clarify Tax Credits for Paid Sick and Paid Family and Medical Leave for County Employers:** Paid leave is a significant topic facing employers right now, including counties who employ over 3.6 million, or 1 percent, of all Americans. As currently written, H.R. 6201 includes two provisions – Section 7001(d)(4) and Section 7003(e)(4) – that impose substantial new sick leave and family medical leave requirements on local governments. ***As Congress continues to engage in ongoing negotiations, counties request that these sections be removed from H.R. 6201 and language is inserted to clarify that state and local government employers fully qualify for both credits.***
- **Clarification on FEMA Resources and Additional Funding:** Counties believe that it is critically important that FEMA involve local governments in the development and implementation of policy and procedures, and to enact such procedures that will clarify and simplify the local role in national emergency management. As eligible counties access over \$40 billion from the Disaster Relief Fund, ***we urge Congress to clarify how counties document eligible costs and activities under the Public Assistance Program.*** To view FEMA's guidance document, [click here](#).

FEDERAL COUNTY PRIORITIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

- **Support for County Human Services Systems:** The COVID-19 crisis creates newfound challenges for counties providing supportive services to vulnerable residents. As the economic fallout of the virus significantly increases demand for the social safety net, local human service agencies must meet the growing needs of our residents while safeguarding the health and safety of our employees. ***We urge Congress to provide flexibility and robust emergency funding to help counties maintain and expand the operation of federally funded human services programs such as nutrition assistance, children and family services, publicly funded child care programs, services for older Americans, and more.***
- **Address Impacts on Local Infrastructure:** As counties address the public health aspects of COVID-19, it is likely that resources currently available to complete critical community infrastructure projects will need to be allocated elsewhere to address more immediate local public health effects of the virus. ***We urge Congress to mitigate the impact on local infrastructure needs by appropriating adequate additional appropriations for public airports, public transit systems and other essential county infrastructure.***



COUNTY ROLE AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19

CHAPTER 2

NOW, MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED STRONG FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION TO ADDRESS THIS CRISIS.

Counties are on the frontlines of our nation's local public health emergency response and overall public safety efforts.

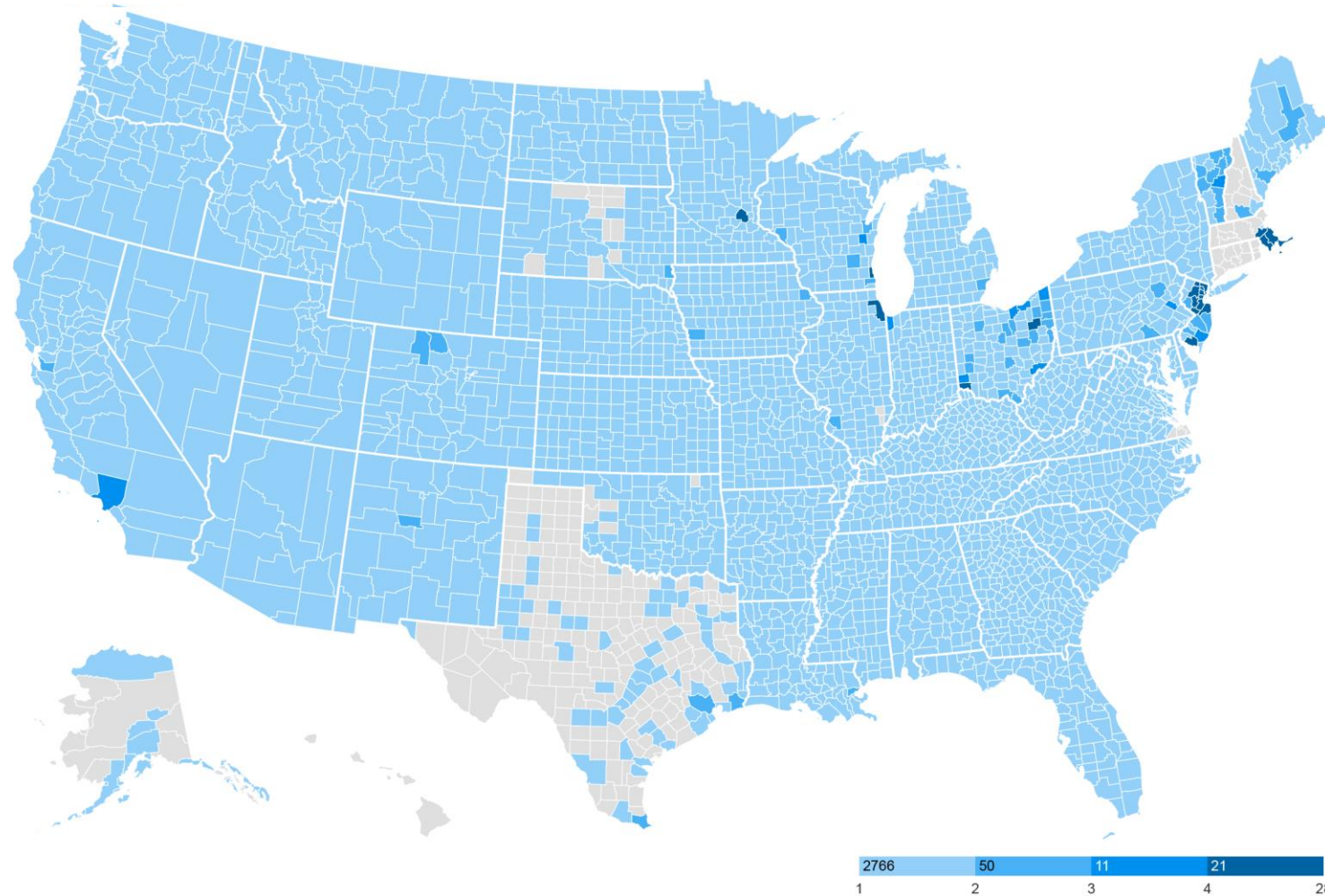
As the ground troops in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, **counties are rapidly disseminating factual and timely updates to the public**, while pursuing containment strategies.

In addition to public health and human services infrastructure, counties are crucial to the operation of local economies, **investing \$134 billion in the construction of infrastructure and the operation and maintenance** of public works and institutions, such as schools, hospitals and jails.

Counties are also important partners in ensuring the economic health of our communities by helping to create and retain jobs, and improve the overall quality of life in America.

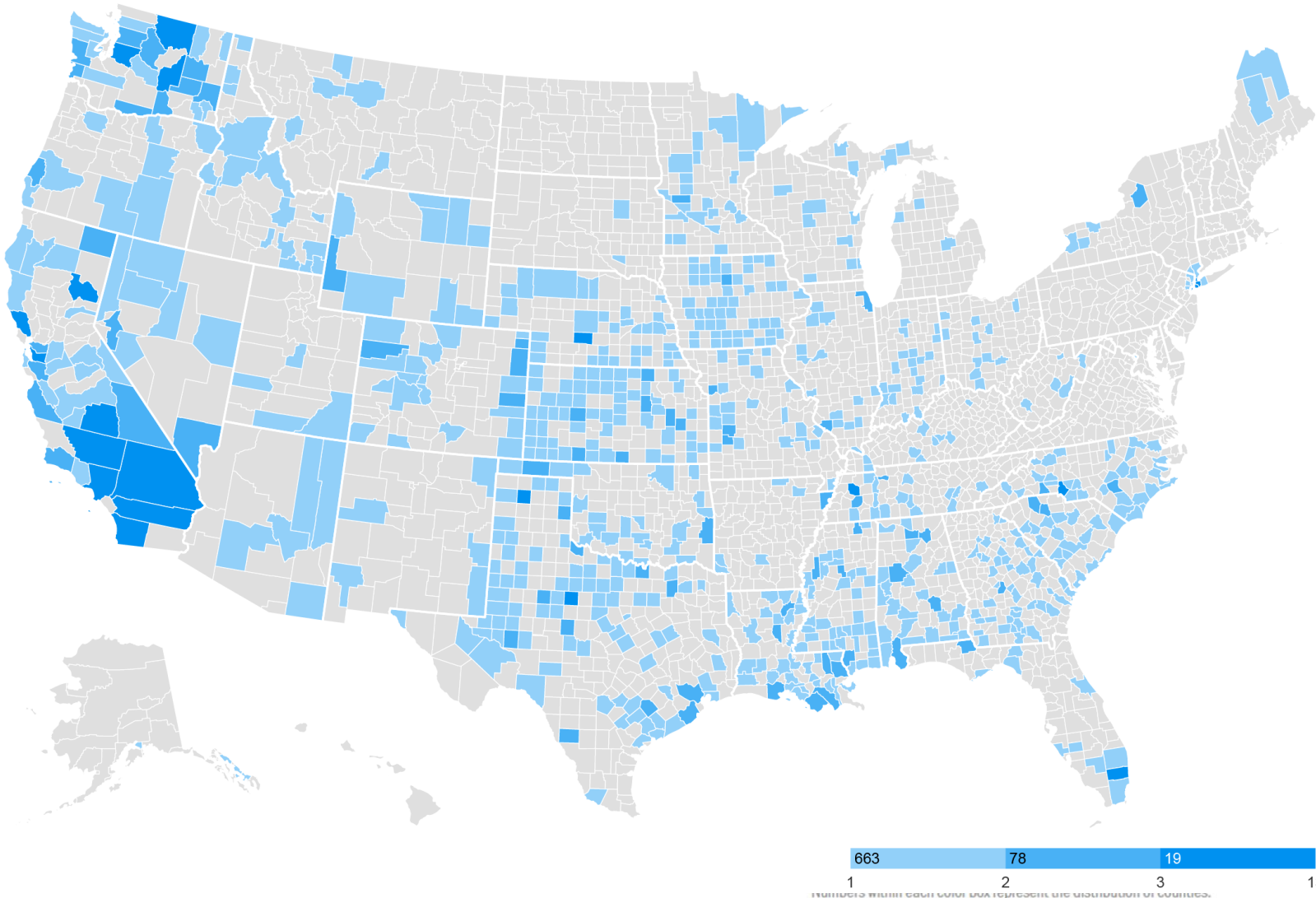
COUNTIES NATIONWIDE OPERATE 1,900 HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

2016 total local health departments



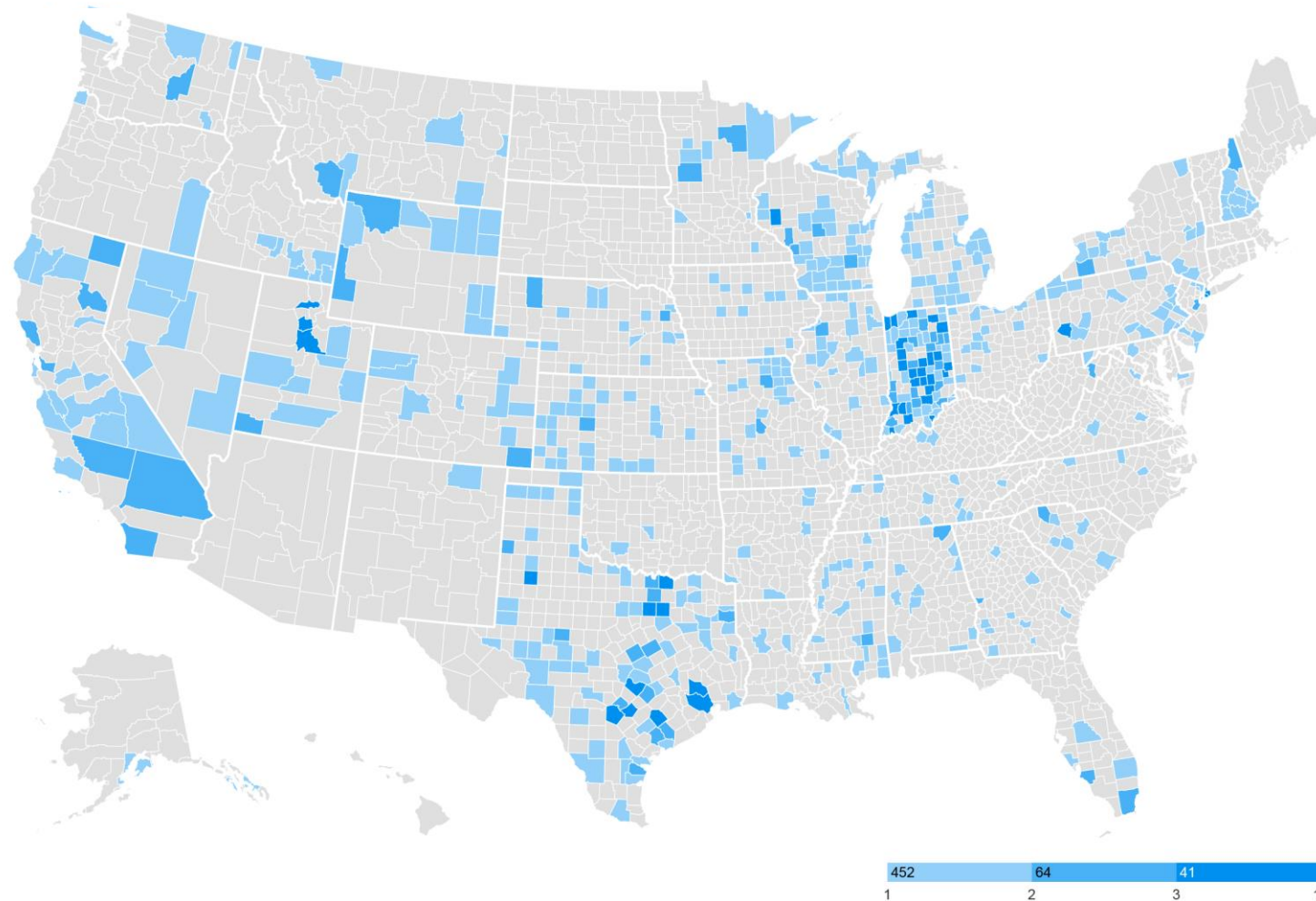
COUNTIES SUPPORT NEARLY 1,000 HOPSITALS

2017 number of county supported hospitals



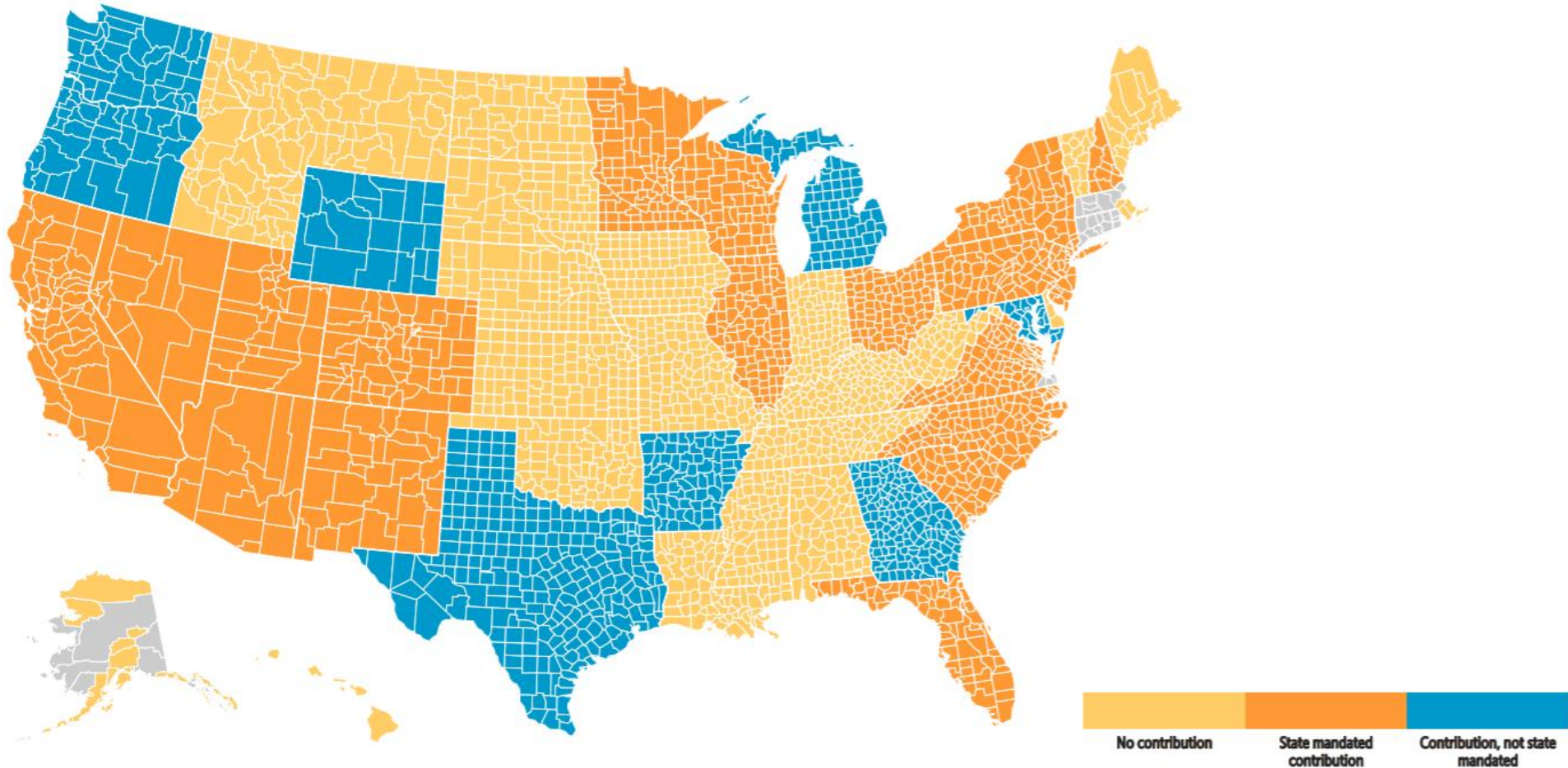
COUNTIES OWN AND SUPPORT 824 NURSING HOMES

2019 nursing homes operated by counties



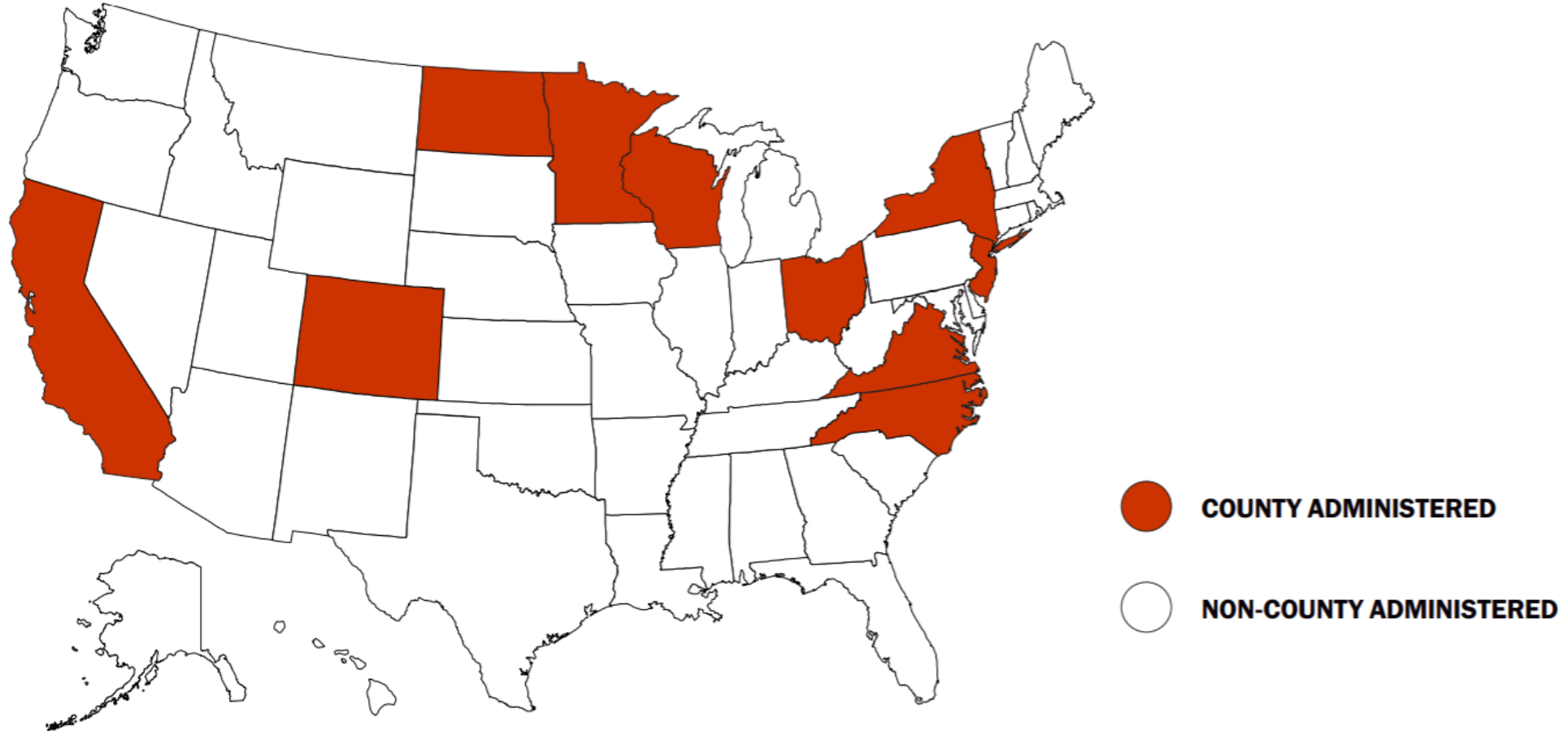
COUNTY ROLE IN MEDICAID

Counties contribute to Medicaid in 26 states. Of these states, 18 states mandate counties to contribute to the non-federal share of Medicaid costs and/or administrative, program, physical health and behavioral health costs. The map below displays 2016 federal medical benefits.



COUNTY ROLE IN HUMAN SERVICES

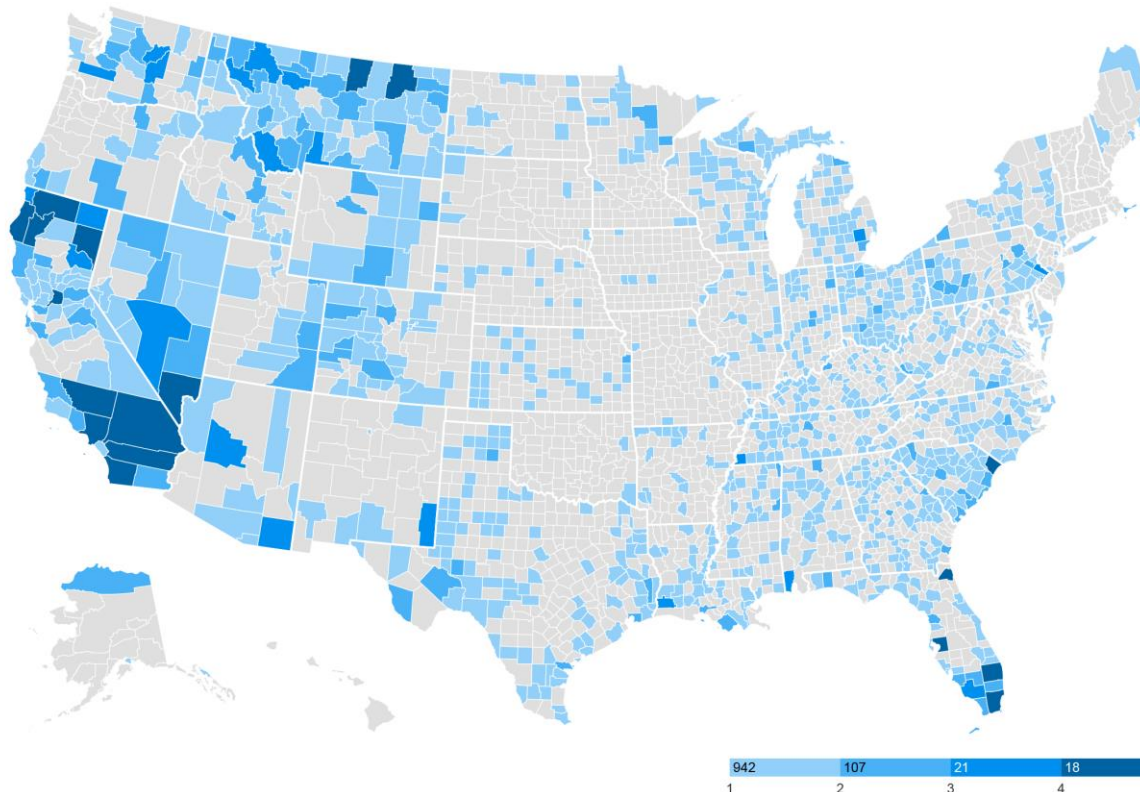
Collectively, counties play a pivotal role in providing our residents with critical health and human services. In ten states, counties provide and administer federal, state and local service systems to break the cycles of poverty. In fact, counties invest \$58 billion annually in human services.



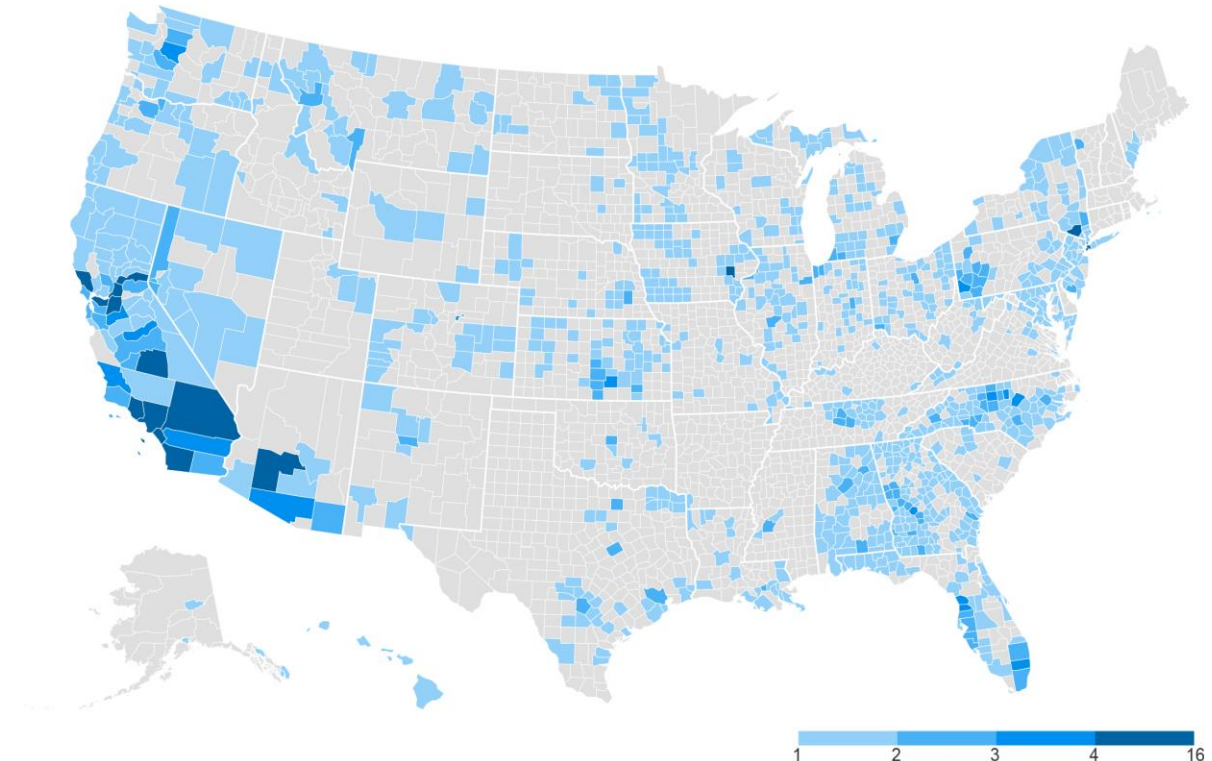
COUNTY ROLE IN AIRPORTS AND TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Counties directly support 34 percent of the nation's public airports and 78 percent of public transit systems that connect people, communities and economies. Additionally, counties invest \$134 billion in the construction of infrastructure and maintenance and operation of public works, such as wastewater and stormwater systems, county hospitals and jails and other public institutions.

2017 COUNTY AIRPORTS

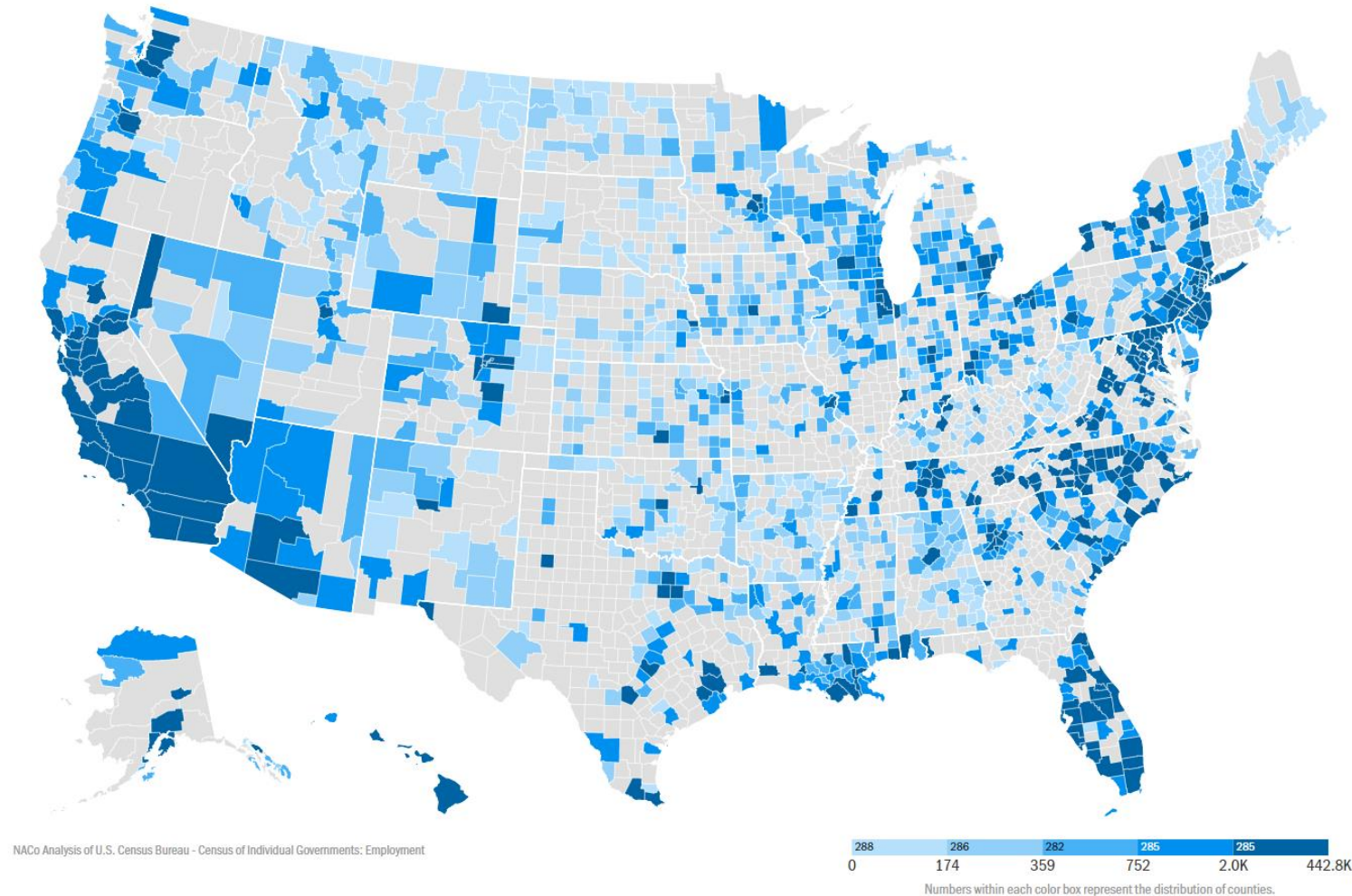


2015 COUNTY TRANSIT AGENCIES



COUNTIES AS EMPLOYERS

Across the country, counties employ 3.6 million, or 1 percent, of Americans. Additionally, counties serve as one of the largest purchasers of healthcare insurance, providing health insurance coverage to 5 million county workers, family members/ dependents and retirees.





SNAPSHOTS OF COVID-19 IMPACTS ON COUNTY BUDGETS

CHAPTER 3

Counties are responding to residents' needs and providing expanded essential services in the COVID-19 crisis **AND THE COSTS ARE RISING.**



COUNTIES ARE INVESTING IN:

Supplies



Masks, gloves, other personal protective equipment and sanitation supplies

New care centers



More doctors, nurses and clinicians



Housing for citizen isolation



Call centers for resident monitoring and support



Emergency leave and overtime



COUNTY FINANCES AND BUDGETS SEVERELY IMPACTED

With involvement in over 1,900 local health departments, nearly 1,000 hospitals and 3,041 police and sheriffs' departments, as well as annual investments of over \$93 billion in justice and public safety, \$83 billion in hospitals and health services and \$58 billion in human services, **county services and budgets are being severely strained as we pour our resources into saving residents' lives.**

In both urban and rural counties across the nation, already strained county budgets are facing extreme fiscal pressure as we work daily to stop the spread of COVID-19. Nearly all counties are also likely to experience a loss in revenue during the COVID-19 pandemic which will impact their ability to provide key services to residents. **The partnership between counties, states and the federal government has become more crucial than ever during this pandemic, and counties urgently need the support of their intergovernmental partners to combat COVID-19 and begin to prepare their communities for economic recovery.**

To view NACo's letter to congressional leadership outlining the priorities and pressing needs of America's counties in federal response packages, [please click here](#).

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIF.

2017 Population: 10.61 million

Los Angeles County, the nation's most populous county, **estimates costs of \$290 million over the course of six months** for their COVID-19 response. They also estimate that **50 of the 88 cities within the county will face additional total response costs of roughly \$145 million.**

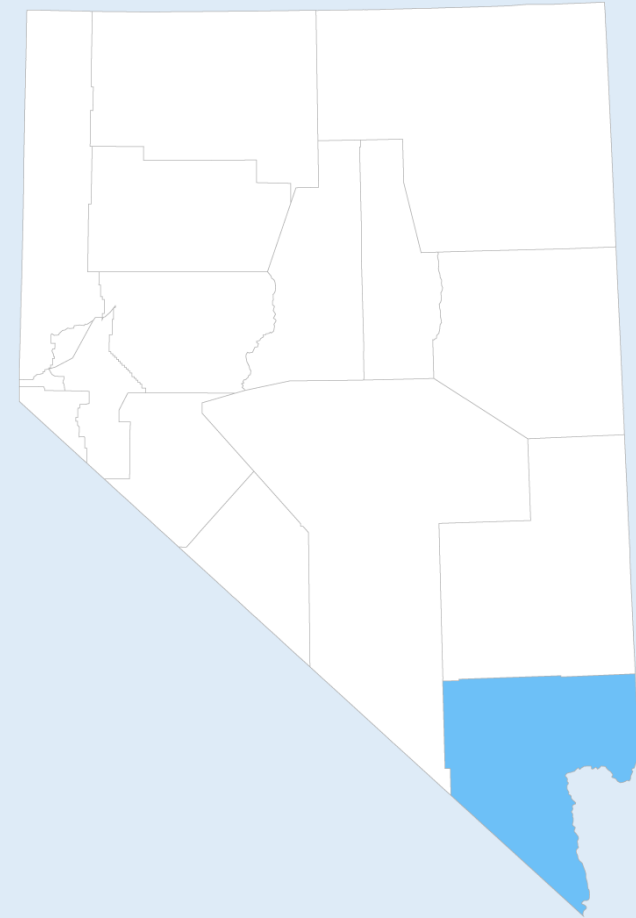


CLARK COUNTY, NEV.

2017 Population: 2.2 million

Clark County, estimates costs of **\$1.08 billion over the next two-years for their COVID-19 response.** The county is investing additional funds in emergency response services such as child welfare services and medical center support.

Additionally, as the owner of the world's tenth largest business airport, McCarran International Airport, Clark County **estimates the county will lose \$329 billion in revenue due to a reduction in air traffic.**



HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

2017 Population: 4.65 million

Harris County has **already incurred nearly \$43 million of expenditures due to the crisis and expects to continue paying nearly \$11 million each month.**

The county is investing additional funds in its hospital district, public health services, sheriffs' department and even engineering department, among other items.

These estimates do not include lost revenue, productivity and the eventual costs the county will incur to catch up on the delayed work. Nor do these estimates include **additional overtime for peace officers, which could amount to nearly \$2 million per week.**



ROSCOMMON COUNTY, MICH.

2017 Population: 24,000

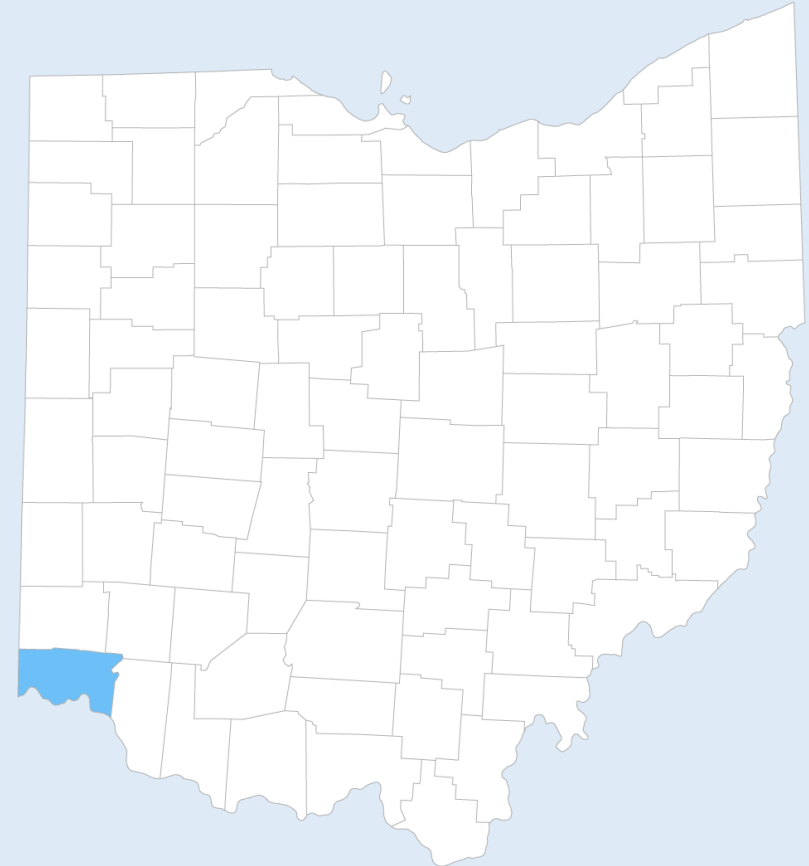
Small, rural counties are known for having especially tight budgets, so the COVID-19 pandemic is hitting their finances particularly hard. Roscommon County, a county of less than 24,000 residents with a budget of just over \$28 million, estimated that it **will incur an additional \$335,000 of expenditures each month** for closure costs, extra equipment and overtime. **These costs translate to a loss of over 14 percent of the county's monthly budget and take away funding from other crucial county services.**



HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

2017 Population: 813,822

Hamilton County has estimated that the pandemic has **cost \$1 million so far in expenditures**. More importantly, the crisis is **causing the county to lose approximately \$12 million each month in revenue**, which is over 10 percent of the county's total monthly revenue.





FEDERAL ACTIONS: WHITE HOUSE, CONGRESS AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

CHAPTER 4

SNAPSHOT OF FEDERAL ACTION

Included in this chapter is an overview of the various federal policy and legislative actions taken to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **At a glance:** Federal actions timeline in response to COVID-19
- **Looking back:** Comparison of past stimulus packages enacted by federal government
- **Debt:** Look at current debt and how it impacts ongoing negotiations
- **Interest rates:** How COVID-19 impacts interest rates
- **Analysis:** Presidential declarations
- **Analysis:** First COVID-19 supplemental package
- **Analysis:** Second COVID-19 supplemental package
- **Analysis:** Third COVID-19 supplemental package

KEY FEDERAL ACTIONS

DATE	FEDERAL ACTION TAKEN
March 13	President declared a national emergency related to COVID-19. The declaration can be read here .
March 18	President signed H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act into law. Detailed summary here .
March 18	The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued guidance to all federal departments and agencies requesting to limit all in-person interactions. Guidance here .
March 19	President authorized the Defense Production Act. Although not officially enacted, the legislation has signed in case it needs to be invoked quickly to address worst case scenarios.
March 19	Internal Revenue Services (IRS) announced that it would be delaying both the deadline for filing federal tax returns and the deadline for payment until July 15. Announcement here .
March 18	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued an immediate foreclosure and eviction moratorium for single family homeowners for the next 60 days. Guidance can be found here .
March 19	Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issued guidance on “ Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce ” to help state and local officials protect communities and residents. Guidance here .

KEY FEDERAL ACTIONS

DATE	FEDERAL ACTION TAKEN
March 18	U.S. State Department advised all U.S. citizens to avoid international travel due to global impact of COVID-19. Global advisory here .
March 18	Small Business Administration (SBA) issued criteria for states seeking economic injury declaration related to COVID-19. More information here .
March 18	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued an expanded national emergency declaration that provides regulator relief for commercial motor vehicle operations. More information here .
March 31	The U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office extended deadline to March 31 for numerous grants and programs. Full list can be found here .
March 17	National Park Services announced that it will temporarily close some national parks. Update here .
March 13	D.C. District Court blocked implementation of U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) rule regarding changes to eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Rule here .
March 13	Federal Transit Administration announced expanded eligibility of federal assistance to help transit agencies respond to COVID-19. More information here .

PREVIOUS STIMULUS LAWS MADE MAJOR INVESTMENT

With ongoing negotiations among lawmakers, investors and economists are calling for a large federal economic relief package to address COVID-19. [First \\$8 billion coronavirus law represents less than 1 percent of U.S. 2019 GDP.](#)

SPENDING SPREES

U.S. government's biggest peacetime widening of budget deficits

■ Deficit increase as % of GDP

1930-1934



1965-1968



1979-1983



2007-2009



Note: GDP – gross domestic product

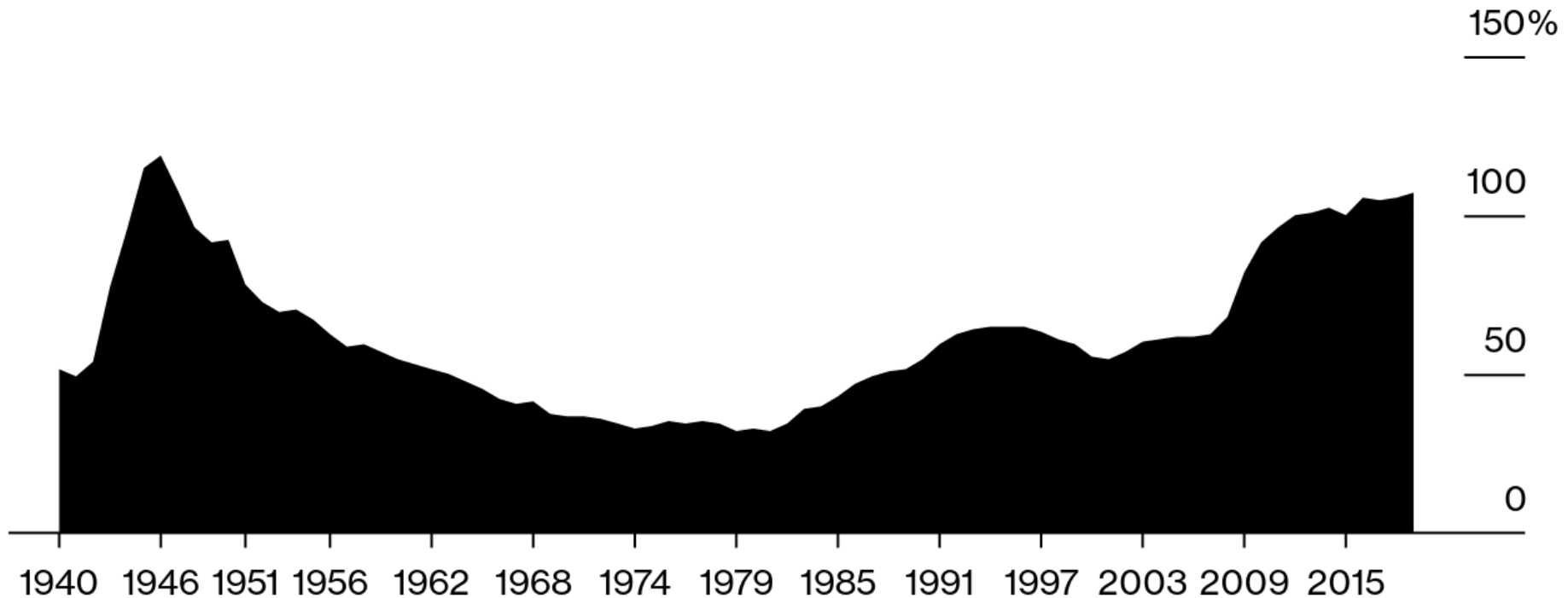
Sources: Bloomberg [analysis](#) of Office of Management and Budget data; [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#); “[Wall Street Urges Shock-And-Awe Stimulus to End Market Bleeding](#),” Bloomberg News

DEBT LEVELS ARE ALREADY HIGH

Federal debt was 106.9 percent of GDP in 2019. This marks the highest point since 1947.

DEBT LEVELS ARE NEAR ALL-TIME HIGH

■ Debt as a share of GDP



Note: GDP – gross domestic product

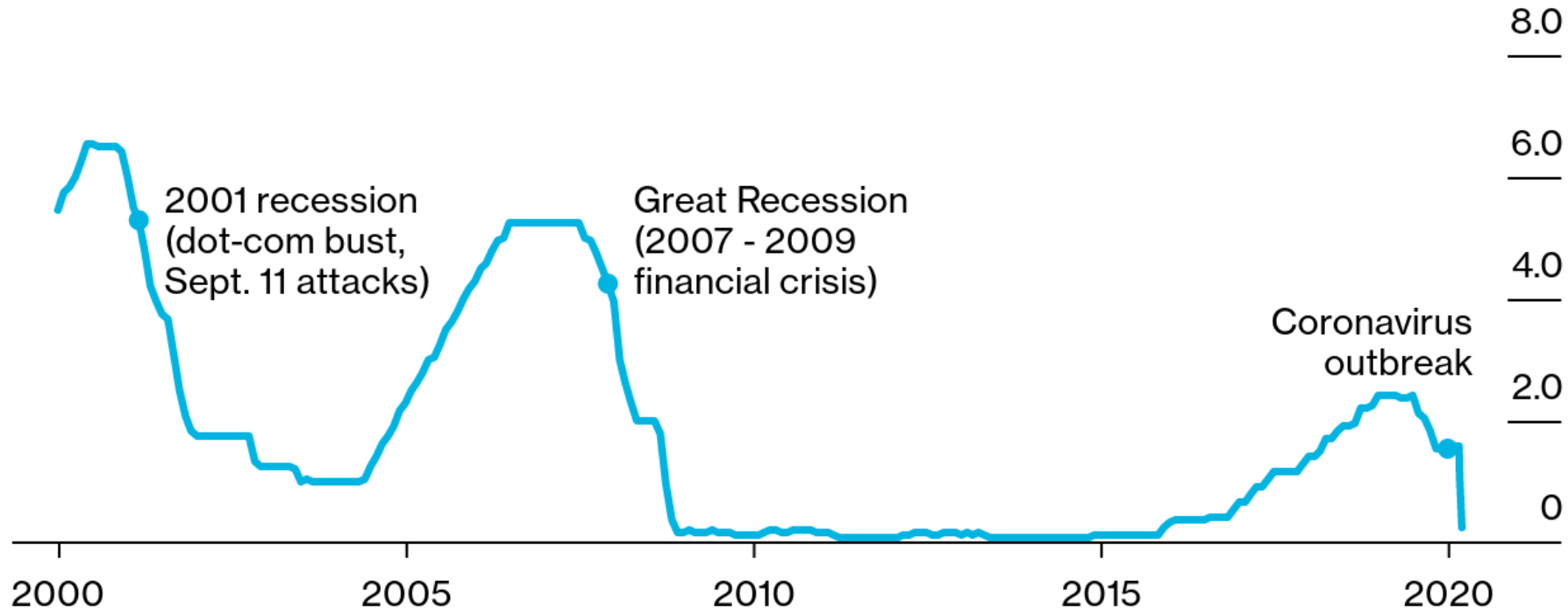
Sources: Bloomberg Government; Office of Management and Budget

NO ROOM LEFT TO CUT INTEREST RATES

The Federal Reserve has cut its benchmark interest rate to near zero.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS LESS FIREPOWER TO FIGHT DOWNTURN WITH INTEREST RATE CUTS

Effective federal funds rate



Sources: Bloomberg Government; Federal Reserve data as of March 17; "Fed Slashes Rates to Near Zero as U.S. Economy Braces for Virus," Bloomberg News

PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION

On March 13, President Trump declared a national emergency related to COVID-19.

The declaration allows increased federal funding for states through the Federal Emergency Management Administration's (FEMA) disaster relief fund. States are now eligible to request a 75 percent cost-share for expenses that include emergency workers, medical tests, medical supplies, vaccinations, security for medical facilities, and other needs.

In total, the declaration would free up \$50 billion to address COVID-19 as well as:

- **Unlock resources from FEMA's disaster relief fund**
- **Allow the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to waive certain regulations to more quickly deliver testing and care for coronavirus patients**
- **Waive interest that accrues on all federal student loans "until further notice"**

FIRST FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

On March 6, President Trump signed the [Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act](#), which provided \$8.3 billion emergency supplemental appropriations package (P.L. 116-123) that includes comprehensive resources to enhance the national response to coronavirus, as well as key provisions to support state and local efforts to address cases of the illness.

As passed, the legislation specifically includes:

- **Funding to support preparedness and response efforts:** \$2.2 billion in public health funding to support prevention, preparedness and response efforts, including a \$1 billion set-aside for State and Local Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grants to support states, counties, cities and tribes, half of which will be distributed to states within 30 days. Under this provision, each state will receive at least \$4 million in PHEP grants. *For county administered public health authorities, we strongly encourage county officials to work closely with state public health offices on the timing and requirements for suballocation and use of these funds*
- **Deployment of vaccines and other tools:** \$3 billion in funding for research and development of coronavirus vaccines and diagnostic tools, and \$100 million in supplemental appropriations for Community Health Centers (CHC)
- **Additional funding to key federal health agencies:** \$3.1 billion in funding to support the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response

SECOND FEDERAL COVID-19 PACKAGE

H.R. 6201

On March 18, the President signed into law the *Families First Coronavirus Response Act* (H.R. 6201) ([P.L. 116-127](#)) which passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 343-40 and the U.S. Senate by a vote of 90-8.

The [multi-billion-dollar emergency aid package](#) includes **five key provisions** meant to respond to the deepening economic crisis caused by the coronavirus outbreak:

- **Free Coronavirus testing:** Ensures that all individuals, including those with private insurance, Medicare Advantage or Original Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, VA, FEHBP and TRICARE, as well as the uninsured, will have access to tests at no cost. This broad no-cost access to testing will allow additional services to be covered under the Medicaid program, helping mitigate potential uncompensated, indigent and/or other prevention and mitigation costs for county hospitals and clinics, as well as broader county public health services.
- **Food assistance:** Includes more than \$1 billion in additional funding and broad administrative flexibilities for nutrition assistance programs under the U.S. Department of Agriculture to ensure low-income households can access enough healthy food during the crisis, especially those with children impacted by school closures. The measure includes \$500 million increase for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC) and \$400 million to assist local food banks to meet increased demand for low-income Americans during the emergency.

SECOND FEDERAL COVID-19 PACKAGE

H.R. 6201

- **Medicaid FMAP Rates:** Increases by 6.2 percent the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) that the federal government provides to state and territorial Medicaid programs. This temporary increase will prevent states from cutting Medicaid benefits. It requires states to maintain eligibility standards that are no less restrictive than the date of enactment. It also maintains a special provision that preserves the existing FMAP sharing arrangements between states and their political subdivisions – a major win for counties in certain states.
- **Unemployment Aid:** Gives states the resources and flexibility to provide unemployment benefits to laid off and furloughed workers, as well as to those workers who exhaust their allotted paid leave. It provides \$1 billion in 2020 for emergency grants to states for activities related to processing and paying unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, under certain conditions. Of that amount, \$500 million – or about half – would be used to provide immediate additional funding to all states for staffing, technology, systems and other administrative costs, so long as they meet basic requirements around ensuring access to earned benefits for eligible workers. The other \$500 million would be reserved for emergency grants to states experiencing at least a 10 percent increase in unemployment
- **Paid Sick and Medical Leave:** The bill contains two major overhauls to paid leave programs for employers – the expansion of the Family and Medical Leave Act (Emergency FMLA Expansion Act) and the enactment of Emergency Paid Sick Leave for reasons related to COVID-19. The legislation applies to all employers with fewer than 500 employees, to provide employees two weeks of paid sick leave, paid at two-thirds the employee's regular rate to care for a child whose school has closed, or if childcare provider is unavailable, due to the coronavirus. The legislation provides employers with tax credits to offset the costs associated with the Emergency FMLA Expansion Act and the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act. However, under the legislation, only private sector employers will receive a tax credit to offset the costs. **Public sector employers are explicitly prohibited from receiving these same tax credits.**

THIRD FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

H.R. 748

On March 25, U.S. Senate unanimously approved the [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#), a \$2 trillion emergency package, the largest economic rescue package in U.S. history. **The bill now goes to the House where passage is expected Friday, March 27.**

As passed by the Senate, the legislation specifically includes:

- **Establishes new Coronavirus Relief Fund for state and local governments to address spending shortages related to the coronavirus pandemic:** The bill provides \$150 billion in aid to states, tribal governments, territories and local governments with populations of over 500,000 people to address necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. *NACo is asking Congress and the U.S. Treasury Department for clarification on details of this fund—including eligibility for counties with populations under 500,000.*
- **Silent on county eligibility for payroll tax credits:** The bill did not include a technical fix so that county governments are eligible for payroll tax credits established under the second supplemental appropriations bill (H.R. 6201/P.L. 116-127).
- **Gives U.S. Treasury new authority to authorize loans and make municipal bond purchases to aid state and local governments:** The bill would create a \$500 billion Economic Stabilization Fund that authorizes the U.S. Treasury to purchase obligations of states, local governments and political subdivisions of them, to cover losses incurred as a result of COVID-19. Thus, the Federal Reserve is permitted to participate as an investor in securities that mature in greater than six months. This fund also provides loans and loan guarantees to small businesses.

THIRD FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

H.R. 748

- **Extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program:** The bill delays the expiration of TANF from May 22, 2020 to November 30, 2020, providing important short-term certainty for county human services agencies and helping vulnerable county residents maintain access to this safety net program.
- **Provides hospitals and health care facilities with additional funding for response efforts:** The bill provides \$100 billion in funding for local hospitals to address medical surge capacity issues and offset the cost of increased healthcare related expenses and loss revenue. Eligible health care providers include public entities, Medicare or Medicaid enrolled suppliers or providers and other health care facilities.
- **Protects payments to hospitals serving the uninsured and underinsured:** The bill would delay statutory cuts to Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments until FY 2021 to help hospitals, including eligible county-owned hospitals, serving the medically indigent and underinsured make up for revenue losses and continue to provide high quality care to all patients especially during this time of crisis.

THIRD FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

H.R. 748

The legislation also provides **\$330 billion through emergency supplemental appropriations** including some of following highlights:

- **\$16 billion to replenish the Strategic National Stockpile supplies** of pharmaceuticals, personal protective equipment, and other medical supplies, which are distributed to State and local health agencies, hospitals and other healthcare entities facing shortages during emergencies.
- **\$1 billion for the Defense Production Act** to bolster domestic supply chains, enabling industry to quickly ramp up production of personal protective equipment, ventilators, and other urgently needed medical supplies, and billions dollars more for federal, state and local health agencies to purchase such equipment.
- **\$4.3 billion to support federal, state and local public health agencies** to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.
- **\$45 billion for FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund**, to provide for the immediate needs of state, local, tribal and territorial governments, as well as private non-profits performing critical and essential services.
- **\$10 billion in grants to help airports** as the aviation sector grapples with the steepest and potentially sustained decline in air travel in history. This funding will be distributed by formulas broken down later in this document.
- **\$56 million for small and rural airports** in additional FY 2020 discretionary appropriations to maintain regularly scheduled air service to small and rural communities.

THIRD FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

H.R. 748

- **\$25 billion in aid for transit systems for operational support** to help protect public health and safety while ensuring access to jobs, medical treatment, food and other essential services. 100 percent of transit funding is allocated through formula grants to state, regional and local transit agencies, including those in rural areas.
- **\$400 million in election assistance** for the states to help prepare for the 2020 election cycle, including to increase the ability to vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration and increase the safety of voting in-person by providing additional voting facilities and more poll workers.
- **More than \$6.5 billion for CDBG, the Economic Development Administration, and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership** to help mitigate the local economic crisis and rebuild impacted industries such as tourism or manufacturing supply chains.
- **More than \$7 billion for affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs** to help low-income and working class Americans avoid evictions and minimize any impacts caused by loss of employment, and child care, or other unforeseen circumstances related to COVID-19.
- **\$850 million in additional funding for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program** to help counties—among other eligible entities—address the needs of their local police departments and jails, including the purchase of personal protective equipment and other needed medical items and to support overtime for officers on the front lines.

THIRD FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF PACKAGE

H.R. 748

- **\$15.5 billion in additional funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** to support states and localities in deploying program flexibilities and meeting growing need for food assistance as a result of coronavirus.
- **\$3.5 billion in additional funding for the Child Care Development Block Grant** to provide childcare assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers and other workers deemed essential during the response to the coronavirus.
- **\$30.75 billion for grants to provide emergency support to local school systems** and higher education institutions to continue to provide educational services to their students and support the on-going functionality of school districts and institutions.
- **\$955 million for the Administration for Community Living (ACL)** to assist local Area Agencies on Aging in providing services to seniors and their caregivers, including home-based support, senior nutrition programs and elder protection.
- **\$88 million in additional funding for food systems and safety** including \$55 million in additional funding for animal and plant health inspections and an additional \$33 million for the Food and Safety Inspection Service.
- **\$1 billion and additional administrative flexibility for the Community Services Block Grant** for local Community Action Agencies to provide anti-poverty programs and services to residents experiencing increasing unemployment and financial instability as a result of the coronavirus.

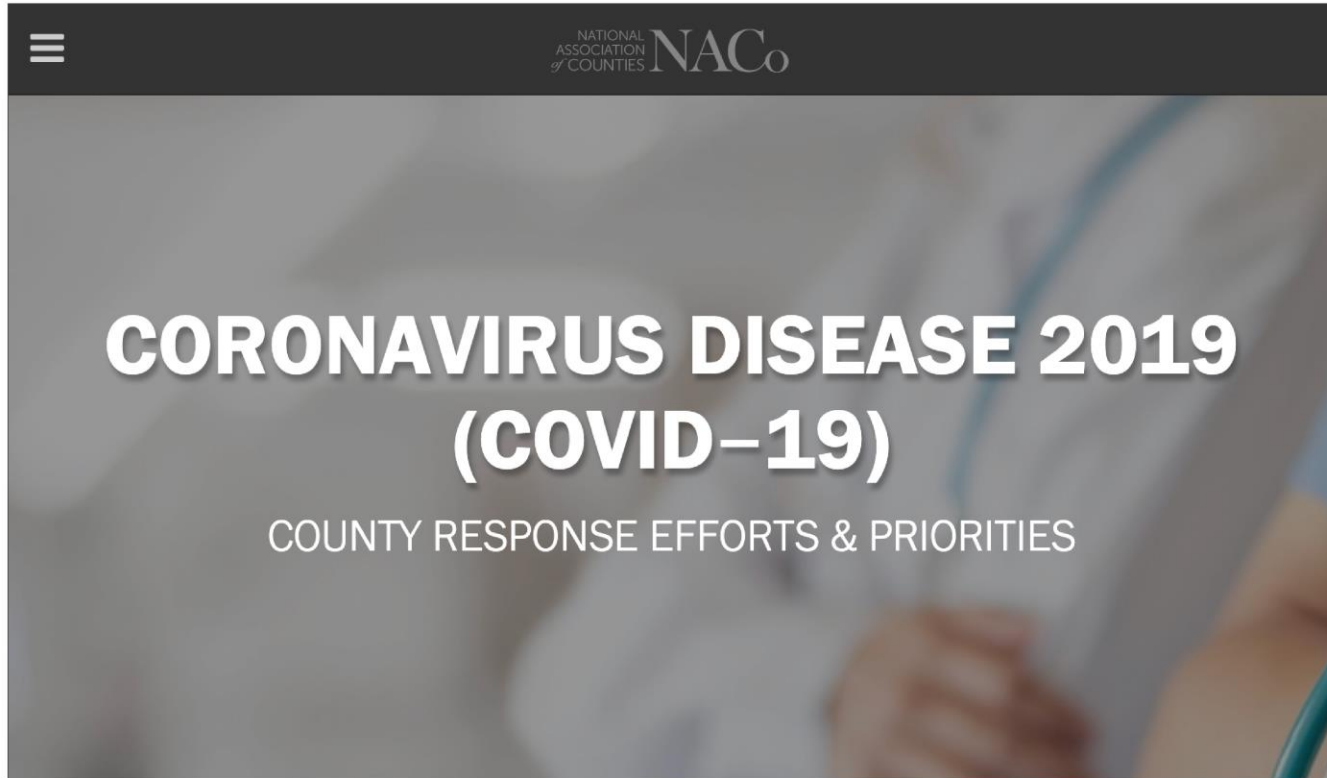


ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CHAPTER 5

ABOUT NACo's COVID-19 RESOURCE PAGE

([NACo.org/coronavirus](https://naco.org/coronavirus))



Visit **NACo.org/coronavirus** to view the latest news, resources and strategies related to the coronavirus pandemic from NACo and its member counties, NACo's partners and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ADDITIONAL FEDERAL RESOURCES

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

- [Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020](#) (H.R. 6074)
- [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#) (H.R. 6201)

WHITE HOUSE RESOURCES

- [President's Coronavirus Task Force](#)
- [The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread](#)
- [U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Azar Declares Public Health Emergency for the United States](#)
- [USA.gov COVID-19 Resource Page](#)

FEDERAL AGENCY RESOURCES BY DEPARTMENT

- [U.S. Department of Agriculture COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Commerce COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Defense COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education COVID-19 Landing Page](#)

ADDITIONAL FEDERAL RESOURCES, CONTINUED

FEDERAL AGENCY RESOURCES BY DEPARTMENT

- [U.S. Department of Energy COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Homeland Security COVID-19 Landing Page Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Justice COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Labor COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of State COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Transportation COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Department of Treasury COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Small Business Administration COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [Federal Communications Commission COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Election Assistance Commission COVID-19 Landing Page](#)
- [U.S. Export-Import Bank COVID-19 Landing Page](#)



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